

684.3303

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
MAKOTO OGUSU ET AL.)
: Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned)
: Filed: Herewith)
: For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING))
: DIFFRACTIVE OPTICAL :
: ELEMENT) December 21, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 11, 12, 16, 31 and 32 as follows. A marked-up copy of the claims is attached.

11. (Amended) A method according to Claim 7, wherein said first and second materials comprise silicon nitride.

12. (Amended) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the inversion of processing region is based on one of etch-back method, lift-off method, damascene method, and selective deposition method.

16. (Amended) A method according to any one of Claims 4 - 6, wherein the second mask comprises a resist.

31. (Amended) A mold for production of a diffractive optical element, characterized in that the mold is manufactured in accordance with a method as recited in any one of Claims 1 - 4.

32. (Amended) A diffractive optical element characterized in that the diffractive optical element is manufactured in accordance with a method as recited in any one of Claims 1 - 4.


REMARKS

Claims 11, 12, 16, 31 and 32 have been amended to correct improper multiple dependencies. Claim 11 has also been amended for clarification. No new matter has been added.

Favorable consideration of the present case and early passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C.
office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed
to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 32533

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

NY_MAIN 226792 v 1

APPENDIX

Application No. Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket No. 684.3303

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 11, 12, 16, 31 and 32 have been amended as follows:

11. (Amended) A method according to Claim 7 [9 or 10], wherein said first and second materials comprise [a] silicon nitride [is used in place of the materials as aforesaid].

12. (Amended) A method according to Claim 7 [any one of Claims 7 - 11], wherein the inversion of processing region is based on one of etch-back method, lift-off method, damascene method, and selective deposition method.

16. (Amended) A method according to any one of Claims 4 - 6 [15], wherein the second mask comprises a resist.

31. (Amended) A mold for production of a diffractive optical element, characterized in that the mold is manufactured in accordance with a method as recited in any one of Claims 1 - 4 [30].

32. (Amended) A diffractive optical element characterized in that the diffractive optical element is manufactured in accordance with a method as recited in any one of Claims 1 - 4 [30].